



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eigen, et al.

Serial No.: 08/750,715

Group Art Unit: 2212

Filed: January 11, 1996?

Examiner: T. Noland

For: A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE SELECTIVE WITHDRAWAL OF CONTENTS FROM COMPLEX MIXTURES

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed 1-30-98, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel original claims 1-32, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Add the following claims.

Sub E1/ 33. A method for separating a component from a sample volume of fluid comprising the steps of:

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- locating said component at a position in an environment containing said sample volume;
 - generating a signal, based on said component position, which signal (i) defines, within said sample volume, at a position in said environment a volume element, which has a volume V corresponding to formula $10^{-9} \leq V \leq 10^{-18}$, (ii) determines a time to transfer said volume element to an other environment at a time when said volume element contains